

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A reconfigurable cartridge processing module for use in a data storage system, comprising:

5 a frame, said frame having a lower plate and an upper plate positioned in generally parallel, spaced-apart relation, said lower and upper plates of said frame having a plurality of sets of mounting locations provided thereon so that said frame defines a first component configuration and a second component configuration, the first component configuration comprising:

10 a first cartridge receiving device ~~mounted~~ secured directly to a first set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper plates so that said first cartridge receiving device is located at a first position within said frame; and

15 a second cartridge receiving device ~~mounted~~ secured directly to a second set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper plates so that said second cartridge receiving device is located at a second position within said frame, said first and second cartridge receiving devices together occupying a volumetric space within said frame, wherein said first and second cartridge receiving devices are located substantially between the upper and lower plates of said frame when said frame is in the first component configuration;

20 the second component configuration comprising a third cartridge receiving device ~~mounted~~ secured directly to a third set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper plates, said third cartridge receiving device occupying substantially the same volumetric space within said frame as is occupied by said first and second cartridge receiving devices in said first

component configuration, wherein said third cartridge receiving device is located substantially between the upper and lower plates of said frame when said frame is in the second component configuration.

5 2. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 1, wherein said first cartridge receiving device comprises a half-width cartridge read/write device.

10 3. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 1, wherein said second cartridge receiving device comprises a cartridge storage magazine.

 4. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 1, wherein said third cartridge receiving device comprises a full-width cartridge read/write device.

15 5. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 1, wherein the second position is located adjacent the first position so that said second cartridge receiving device is located adjacent said first cartridge receiving device when said frame is in the first component configuration.

20 6. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 1, wherein the second position is located alongside the first position so that said second cartridge receiving device is located alongside said first cartridge receiving device when said frame is in the first component
25 configuration.

7-9. Canceled.

10. (Currently Amended) A reconfigurable cartridge processing module for use in a data storage system, comprising:

a frame, said frame having a lower plate and an upper plate positioned in generally parallel, spaced-apart relation, said lower and upper plates of said frame having a plurality of sets of mounting locations provided thereon so that said frame defines a first component configuration and a second component configuration, the first component configuration comprising:

a first cartridge receiving device ~~mounted~~ secured directly to a first set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper plates so that said first cartridge receiving device is located at a first position within said frame; and

a second cartridge receiving device ~~mounted~~ secured directly to a second set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper plates so that said second cartridge receiving device is located at a second position within said frame, the second position being located adjacent the first position so that said second cartridge receiving device is located alongside said first cartridge receiving device, wherein said first and second cartridge receiving devices are located substantially between the upper and lower plates of said frame when said frame is in the first component configuration;

the second component configuration comprising a third cartridge receiving device ~~mounted~~ secured directly to a third set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper plates, said third cartridge receiving device in said second component configuration substantially replacing said first and second cartridge receiving devices in said first component configuration and vice-versa, so that a volumetric space occupied by said first and second cartridge receiving devices in said first component configuration is

substantially occupied by said third cartridge receiving device in said second component configuration and vice-versa, wherein said third cartridge receiving device is located substantially between the upper and lower plates of said frame when said frame is in the second component configuration.

11. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 10, wherein said first cartridge receiving device comprises a half-width cartridge read/write device.

12. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 10, wherein said second cartridge receiving device comprises a cartridge storage magazine.

13. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 10, wherein said third cartridge receiving device comprises a full-width cartridge read/write device.

14. (Currently Amended) A reconfigurable cartridge processing module for use in a data storage system, comprising:

a frame, said frame having a lower plate and an upper plate positioned in generally parallel, spaced-apart relation, said lower and upper plates of said frame having a plurality of sets of mounting locations provided thereon so that said frame defines a first component configuration and a second component configuration, the first component configuration comprising:

first cartridge receiving means ~~mounted~~ secured directly to a first set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper plates for receiving at least one data cartridge; and

second cartridge receiving means ~~mounted~~ secured directly to a second set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper

plates for receiving said at least one data cartridge,
wherein said first and second cartridge receiving
means are located substantially between the upper and
lower plates of said frame when said frame is in the
first component configuration;

the second component configuration comprising third
cartridge receiving means ~~mounted~~ secured directly to a
third set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations
provided on said lower and upper plates for receiving said
at least one data cartridge, said third cartridge receiving
means in said second component configuration replacing said
first and second cartridge receiving means in said first
component configuration and vice-versa so that a volumetric
space occupied by said first and second cartridge receiving
means in said first configuration is substantially occupied
by said third cartridge receiving means in said second
configuration and vice-versa, wherein said third cartridge
receiving means is located substantially between the upper
and lower plates of said frame when said frame is in the
second component configuration.

15. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing
module of claim 14, wherein said second cartridge receiving means
is mounted adjacent said first cartridge receiving means when
said frame means is in the first component configuration.

16. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing
module of claim 14, wherein said second cartridge receiving means
is mounted alongside said first cartridge receiving means when
said frame means is in the first component configuration.

17. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing
module of claim 14, wherein said first cartridge receiving means
comprises cartridge read/write means for reading data from and
writing data to said at least one data cartridge.

18. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 14, wherein said second cartridge receiving means comprises cartridge storage magazine means for storing said at least one data cartridge.

5 19. (Original) The reconfigurable cartridge processing module of claim 14, wherein said third cartridge receiving means comprises cartridge read/write means for reading data from and writing data to said at least one data cartridge.

20. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

10 providing a frame having a lower plate and an upper plate positioned in generally parallel, spaced-apart relation, said lower and upper plates of said frame having a plurality of sets of mounting locations thereon;

15 defining a first component configuration by ~~mounting~~
securing a first cartridge receiving device directly to a first set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper plates and by ~~mounting~~
securing a second cartridge receiving device directly to a second set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations
20 provided on said lower and upper plates so that the second cartridge receiving device is located adjacent the first cartridge receiving device, wherein said first and second cartridge receiving devices are located substantially between the upper and lower plates of said frame when said
25 frame is in the first component configuration; or, in the alternative,

30 defining a second component configuration by ~~mounting~~
securing a third cartridge receiving device directly to a third set of the plurality of sets of mounting locations provided on said lower and upper plates, said third cartridge receiving device in the second component configuration substantially replacing said first and second cartridge receiving devices in the first component

configuration and vice-versa, so that a volumetric space occupied by said first and second cartridge receiving devices in the first component configuration is substantially occupied by said third cartridge receiving device in the second component configuration and vice-versa, wherein said third cartridge receiving device is located substantially between the upper and lower plates of said frame when said frame is in the second component configuration.

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